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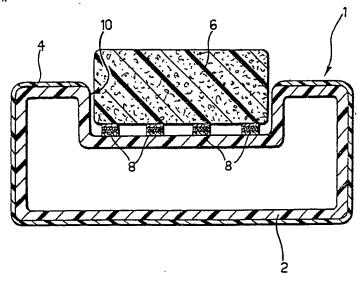
## **EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION**

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- (54) A seat structure particularly for motor vehicles.
- n a seat structure, particularly for motor vehicles, comprising a support frame of plastics material and a padding element connected to the support frame, the support frame (2) is of blow moulded or injection moulded thermoplastics material and includes releasable coupling means (8) associated with the frame and with the padding element (6) for their interconnection.



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## A seat structure particularly for motor vehicles.

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fitted.

The present invention relates to a seat structure, particularly for motor vehicles, of the type comprising a support frame of plastics material and a padding element connected to the frame.

The object of the present invention is to produce a seat structure which is particularly simple and economical to manufacture.

For this purpose, the subject of the invention is a seat structure characterised in that the support frame is of blow-moulded or injection-moulded thermoplastics material and in that it includes releasable coupling means associated with the frame and with the padding element for their interconnection

Further characteristics and advantages of the present invention will become clear from the detailed description which follows with references to the appended drawing, in which one embodiment of the invention is shown in frontal section.

A motor-vehicle seat structure, specifically a seat member, is generally indicated 1 in the drawing. It is intended that the term seat structure as used in the present description should include both the seat member and the brackrest of a seat.

A support frame constituted by a hollow body of thermoplastics material produced by blow moulding or injection moulding is indicated 2. The frame 2 may conveniently be provided with a surface which is adapted to confer an aesthetic quality, for example a surface 4 which is embossed in the die.

A soft padding element of cellular material is indicated 6. This element is connected to the frame by releasable coupling means 8 whose mutual engagement elements are connected to the padding element and to the frame. The coupling means are preferably constituted by micro-hook connecting means of the Velcro (registered trade mark) type; however, equivalent engagement means may also be used

The micro-hook connecting devices preferably form integral parts of the frame, being fixed to the frame by co-moulding in situ.

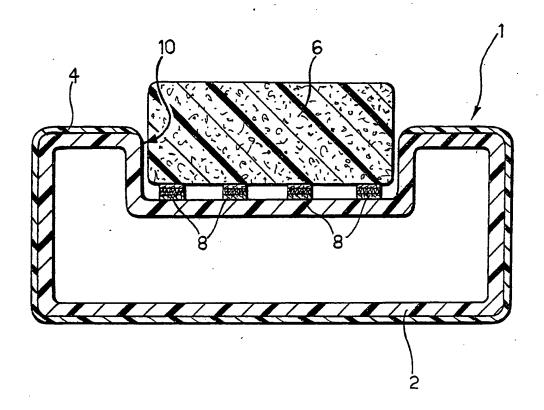
Alternatively, the coupling means may be fixed to the frame 2 by ultrasonic welding or  $\vec{by}$  mechanical connection means.

Preferably as shown in the figure the seat member 2 has a central recess 10 in which the padding element 6 is fitted; the coupling means being interposed between the bottom of the recess and the lower face of the padding element.

## Claims

- 1. A seat structure, particularly for motor vehicles, comprising a support frame of plastics material and a padding element connected to the support frame, characterised in that the support frame (2) is of blow moulded or injection moulded thermoplastics material and in that it includes releasable coupling means (8) associated with the frame and with the padding element (6) for their interconnection.
- 2. A seat structure, characterised in that the coupling means are constituted by one or more micro-hook connecting devices.
- A seat structure according to Claim 1 or Claim 2, characterised in that the coupling means are incorporated in the support frame by co-moulding in situ.
- 4. A seat structure according to Claim 1 or Claim 2, characterised in that the coupling means are fixed to the support frame by ultrasonic welding.
- 5. A seat structure according to Claim 1 or Claim 2, characterised in that the coupling means are fixed to the frame by mechanical connection means.
- A seat structure according to any of Claims
   to 5,
   characterised in that the support frame (2) has a central recess (10) in which the padding element is

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## EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

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	DOCUMENTS CONS	<del></del>		T	
Category	Citation of document with of relevant	n indication, where ap passages	propriate,	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl. 4)
A	EP-A-0 138 724 (L * Page 7, line 34 figures *	OUISON) - page 9, li	ne 18;	1,2,3	B 60 N 1/00 A 47 C 5/12 A 47 C 31/02
A	WO-A-8 603 164 (V * Page 19, line 33 figures *	ELCRO) - page 20,	line 15;	1,2,3	
A	EP-A-0 111 641 (S * Page 4, lines 6-	APORITI) 28; figures	<b>k</b>	1,2	
A	EP-A-0 100 698 (C * Claim 1; figures	ITROEN) *		1	-
A	FR-A-2 463 870 (F * Page 3, line 32 figures *	AURE) - page 4, lir	ne 25;	1	
					TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl.4)
		4			A 47 C B 29 D B 60 N
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	The present search report has l	been drawn up for all	claims		
Place of search Date of completion of the search			•	1	Examiner
THE HAGUE 02-01-		-1989   HORVATH R.C.			
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS  X: particularly relevant if taken alone Y: particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A: technological background O: non-written disclosure P: intermediate document			T: theory or principle underlying the invention E: earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D: document cited in the application L: document cited for other reasons  &: member of the same patent family, corresponding document		

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